

The Parish of Elstree & Borehamwood
**All Saints * Holy Cross * St Michael and
All Angels * St Nicholas**
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-091BJ>

Sunday, August 23rd

TRINITY 12

Welcome to Church

Welcome to our 10.00am Parish Service at Holy Cross Church. Today we welcome Mr Gary Bentley of the Christian Police Association as our guest speaker. The service is followed by coffee and sandwiches. All are most welcome.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 1.8-2.10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." ¹¹Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. ¹⁵The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶"When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." ¹⁷But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" ¹⁹The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women

are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." ²⁰So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²²Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live. Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³When she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" ⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Psalms 124

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side—let Israel now say—

**If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,
when our enemies attacked us,**

Then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us;

**Then the flood would have swept us away, the
torrent would have gone over us;
then over us would have gone the raging waters.**

Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

**We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the
fowlers.**

The snare is broken, and we have escaped.

**Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made
heaven and earth.**

Romans 12.1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one

body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Luke 10.25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." ²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" ³⁰Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan, while travelling, came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

This Week...

Monday, August 24th

9.30am Morning Prayer, All Saints

Tuesday, August 25th

- Sorry, no Holy Communion today at Holy Cross

Wednesday, August 26th

10.00am Holy Communion, St Nicholas

Thursday, August 27th

- 9.30am Morning Prayer, St Nicholas
- 12.00-3.00pm Welcome Café, St Michael's
- 3.00pm Songs of Praise with Holy Communion, St Michael's

Friday, August 28th

12.30pm Holy Communion, All Saints

Saturday, August 29th

- Holy Cross postcards delivery project, 9.30am. Please ask Revd Louise for details.

Installation of Bishop Andrew

Saturday, September 19th at 2.00pm at St Albans Abbey Cathedral. Tickets required. Free tickets available to book via the Cathedral website.

Holy Cross Patronal Service

Sunday, Sept 13th @ 10.00am at Holy Cross with the Bishop of Hertford.

In this special Parish Service, Revd Louise Collins will be Licensed as Team Vicar with special responsibility for Holy Cross and St Michael's. Followed by a **"Bring-and-Share" Buffet Lunch.** Please do sign up if you are coming, thank you.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE Sunday, August 30th

St Nicholas	9.15am	Holy Communion
Holy Cross	9.30am	Service of the Word
St Michael	9.30am	Holy Communion
All Saints	11.15am	Holy Communion

Confirmations 2026/27

"Following a discussion at the PCC in July, it was agreed to seek a confirmation service to be held within the parish in the spring of next year. This has been agreed by the Bishop of Hertford, and we are awaiting a firm date, but very much look forward to celebrating people's faith decisions in the midst of our local community. This will mean that we will be holding a confirmation course [early next year], and we look forward to hosting the confirmation service locally for the first time in a number of years. However, if anyone is keen to be confirmed this year, there is the possibility of attending the confirmation service at the Cathedral on 24 October, with a confirmation course in preparation beginning on 30 August."

The Parish of Elstree and Borehamwood
Baptism & Confirmation Classes – AUTUMN 2026

WHO: Anyone aged 16 or over thinking about Christian Baptism and/or Confirmation or anyone wishing to explore their faith.

WHERE / WHEN:
All classes are held at St Michael and All Angels Church, Brook Road, Borehamwood, WD6 5EQ, from 2.45pm (drinks) to 4.00pm.

Sunday, Aug 30th Week One: Who is Jesus?
 Jesus Then and Now
 The Seven 'I AM' Sayings of Jesus

Sunday, Sep 6th Week Two: What Makes Christianity Different?
 Creeds & Commandments
 The Religion of Love

Sunday, Sep 13th Week Three: What Makes Christianity Different?
 Reconciliation and Forgiveness

Sunday, Sep 20th Week Four: Food for the Journey
 Lectio Divina and the Lord's Prayer

Sunday, Sep 27th Week Five: Food for the Journey
 Meeting the Risen Christ in Bread and Wine

Sunday, Oct 4th Week Six: What Happens When I Am Confirmed?
 Practice and Practicalities

Sunday, Oct 11th Week Seven: Thy Kingdom Come
 Discipleship and The Five Marks of Anglican Mission

SATURDAY, Oct 17th Afternoon Pilgrimage to St Albans Cathedral
 Leave St Michael's car park at 12.00pm. Return 4.30pm approx.

THE CONFIRMATION SERVICE
Saturday, October 24th 2026
At St Albans Abbey Cathedral
 6.00pm (time to be confirmed) Rehearsal
 7.30pm Service of Baptism & Confirmation

To enquire / register your interest, please contact Revd Louise Collins,
louise.collins59@hotmail.com / 07759 283337